



Attorney General Jon Bruning

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Note: A sound bite on this topic will be available shortly at: <http://www.ago.ne.gov>**

## **AG Bruning: Herchel Huff Sentenced to more than 50 Years in Prison**

LINCOLN -- Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced that Herchel Huff was sentenced in Furnas County Court to more than 50 years in prison for the October 2007 death of Kasey Jo Warner

“At no point has Mr. Huff shown any remorse or regret for snuffing out this bright young life,” Bruning said. “He’s a danger to society and deserves to be locked away.”

Huff was convicted on March 12, 2010, of motor vehicle homicide while driving under the influence of alcohol. On October 3, 2007, Warner was jogging with her 3 year-old daughter on a county road south of Arapahoe when Huff struck her with his car.

Huff was sentenced to 45 years on the motor vehicle homicide charge and 20 years on a manslaughter charge. These two sentences are to be served concurrently.

On a charge of witness tampering, Huff received 20-60 months, and he was sentenced to five years for failing to submit to a chemical test. These are to be served consecutively.

Overall, Huff was sentenced to a minimum of 51 years, 8 months and a maximum of 55 years in prison.

Investigators determined Huff was driving more than 70 MPH and was intoxicated at the time. Warner’s daughter survived after Warner pushed her out of the way of the oncoming vehicle. Witnesses reported that Huff asked to use a phone to call his attorney before he called for medical help.

Evidence at trial showed that immediately after killing Warner, Huff tried to convince a passenger in his car to take the blame and state that he was driving. This harassment continued at the scene until Huff was arrested.

At the time of Warner's death, Huff was out on bond while facing a third-offense DUI charge in Lincoln County. The conviction related to Warner's death is Huff's fourth DUI conviction in Nebraska and his 6<sup>th</sup> conviction overall.

Assistant Attorneys General Mike Guinan and Ed Vierk and Furnas County Attorney Tom Patterson handled this case.

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